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September 24, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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SEP 26 2001  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application No. 09/300,482  
Filed: April 28, 1999  
Art Unit: 1631  
Inventor: CHEIKH, *et al.*  
For: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with the  
Phosphogluconate Pathway  
Dkt. No.: 16517.216

Sir:

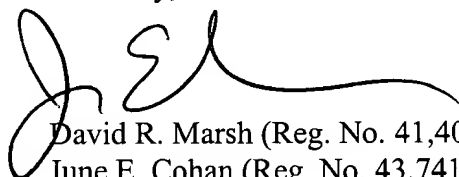
Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are the following documents:

1. a Response to Office Action;
2. a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 (in duplicate); and
3. return postcard.

The enclosed Petition directs the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to charge the three months extension fee of \$890.00 or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 50-1824 referencing matter number 16517.216.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

Sincerely,

  
David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)  
June E. Cohan (Reg. No. 43,741)

Enclosures